APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/810,407	03/26/2004	Rocky Harry W. Nevin III	RKNV-111	8583

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EXAMINER
LIN, SHEW FEN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2166	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/810,407	NEVIN, ROCKY HARRY W.
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Shew-Fen Lin	2166	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *11 June 2007*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *41-44, 49-66 and 76-78* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *41-44, 49-66 and 76-78* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *26 March 2004* is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date *3/26/04*.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

a. This action is responsive to communications: application filed on 3/26/2004 and

amendment filed on 6/11/2007.

b. Claims 41-44, 49-66, and 76-78 are pending in this Office Action. Claims 41, 43,

49, 58, 60, 62, 63, 66, and 76 are independent claims.

Priority

Applicant's claim for the benefit of a prior-filed application 09/578,127, filed on April

24, 2000, which claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application 60/135,740, under 35 U.S.C.

119(e) or under 35 U.S.C. 120, 121, or 365(c) is acknowledged.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Information Disclosure Statement(s) received on March 26, 2004 is in compliance

with provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the Information Disclosure Statement(s) are

being considered by the examiner.

Drawings

Figures 4-7 of the drawings filed March 30, 2007 is objected to because the Figure

include separate and unconnected elements being not enclosed in a rectangle for showing the

elements belonging to a same Figure. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR

1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any

amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate

prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number

of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be

canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where

necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief

description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets

may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet

submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either

"Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not

accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective

action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance. See

37 CFR 1.83. 37 CFR 1.84(n)(o) is recited below:

> "(n) Symbols. Graphical drawing symbols may be used for conventional elements when
> appropriate. The elements for which such symbols and labeled representations are used
> must be adequately identified in the specification. Known devices should be illustrated by
> symbols which have a universally recognized conventional meaning and are generally
> accepted in the art. Other symbols which are not universally recognized may be used,
> subject to approval by the Office, if they are not likely to be confused with existing
> conventional symbols, and if they are readily identifiable.
>
> (o) Legends. Suitable descriptive legends may be used, or may be required by the
> Examiner, where necessary for understanding of the drawing, subject to approval by the
> Office.

Double Patenting

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine
grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or
improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible
harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection
is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined
application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined

application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., *In re Berg*, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 41, 43, 58, and 66 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim1 of U.S. Patent No. **6,714,936**. The following table shows the claims in Instant Application that are rejected by corresponding claim(s) in U.S. Patent No. **6,714,936**.

Claims Comparison Table		
	Instant Application	**U.S. Patent No. 6,714,936**
Claim #	41	1
Claim #	43	1
Claim #	58	1
Claim #	66	1

Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because they are substantially similar in scope and they use the same limitations.

In Addition, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to omit the additional elements in U.S. Patent No. **6,714,936** to arrive at

the claims 41, 43, 58, and 66 of Instant Application because the person would have realized that

the remaining element would perform the same functions as before. "Omission of element and its

function in combination is obvious expedient if the remaining elements perform same functions

as before." See *In re Karlson* (CCPA) 136 USPQ 184, decide Jan 16, 1963, Appl. No. 6857, U.S.

Court of Customs and Patent Appeals.

Claim Objections

Claims 49, 52, 57, and 64 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Regarding claims 49 and 57, the phrase "amenable to" renders the claim(s) indefinite

because making an option to perform a functionally but not actually having the software

programmed (i.e. configured to) to provide that functionality exclusively as supported by the

specification.

Claim 52 recites the limitation, " said point of view ". It is not clear if it is a new instance

of "point of view" or a reference to the original "the point of view" thus lacks antecedent basis

(should be preceded with "the").

Regarding claim 64, the phrase "such as" renders the claim indefinite because it is unclear

whether the limitations following the phrase are part of the claimed invention. See MPEP

§ 2173.05(d).

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 101

35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

Claims 41, 49, 58, 62, 63, 66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed

invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 41, 58, a method for creating a connected network of nodes. The claimed

inventions, as a whole must accomplish a <u>practical application.</u> That is, it must produce a <u>"useful,</u>

<u>concrete and tangible result."</u> *State Street, 149 F.3d at 1373, 47 USPQ2s at 1601-02. MPEP*

2106. In this case the result is simply displaying a sea of nodes <u>when</u> one of the nodes is

designated. The claimed limitations are an abstraction as they are not <u>useful, concrete, and</u>

<u>tangible</u> they are not put in any tangible form and not useful because they are not presented in

such a way as to produce and/or provide some result that is of utility that may exist in the

specification however no specific use is provided for in the claimed invention. Thus the claims

are non-statutory and stand rejected under 101 as not **producing a "useful, concrete and**

tangible result."

Claims 49, 62, 63, 66, a method for establishing a set of connected network of nodes. The

claims lack the necessary physical articles or objects to constitute a machine or a manufacture

within the meaning of 35 USC 101. They are clearly not a series of steps or acts to be a process

nor are they a combination of chemical compounds to be a composition of matter. As such, they

fail to fall within a statutory category. These claims are therefore non-statutory subject matter

because they are software per se, and do not fall within a statutory category of invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the

basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 41-44, 60-61, and 66 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by

Roberge et al. (U.S. 6,154,750, hereinafter "Roberge").

As to claim 41, Roberge teaches a method for creating a highly connected network of

nodes indicative of computer-readable data (Fig. 4), including the steps of:

capturing data contained in at least one legacy database (Fig. 4 and col. 4, lines 1-11

where database records are retrieved and displayed in hierarchical tree structure); and

structuring the captured data as a set of linked nodes, wherein each of the nodes includes

at least one link to another one of the nodes, and the set of linked nodes is structured such that

when one of the nodes is designated as a point of view, representations of the nodes can be

displayed as a sea of node representations, viewed from said point of view (Fig. 4 and col. 4,

lines 1-11 where database records are retrieved and displayed in hierarchical tree structure, Figs.

7, 8 and col. 6, lines 18-24, where a new set of nodes is displayed for the selected node).

As to claim 42, Roberge teaches the method of claim 41, wherein the nodes have identical structure but at least some of the nodes have different content (Fig. 4 and col. 3, line 66 to col. 4, line 1, database structure and content).

As to claim 43, Roberge teaches a method for creating a highly connected network of nodes indicative of computer-readable data (Fig. 4), including the steps of :

capturing data contained in at least one legacy database (Fig. 4 and col. 4, lines 1-11 where database records are retrieved and displayed in hierarchical tree structure);

structuring the captured data as a set of linked nodes, wherein each of the nodes includes at least one link to another one of the nodes, and the set of linked nodes is structured such that when one of the nodes is designated as a point of view, representations of the nodes can be displayed as a sea of node representations (Fig. 4 and col. 4, lines 1-11 where database records are retrieved and displayed in hierarchical tree structure, Figs. 7, 8 and col. 6, lines 18-24, where a new set of nodes is displayed for the selected node);

designating one of the nodes as the point of view (Fig. 4, 42, select a node of interest); and

displaying said representations of the nodes as said sea of node representations, viewed from said point of view (Fig. 4, 42, 44, set of nodes is displayed based on the selected node).

As to claim 44, Roberge teaches the method of claim 43, wherein said sea of node representations includes virtual reality renderings (col. 2, lines 36-45, col. 3, lines 36-40 where user interact with nodes).

As to claim 60, Roberge teaches a method for associating linked nodes, wherein each of the nodes contains computer-readable data, at least one link to another one of the nodes, and a link identification for each event which links said each of the nodes to another one of the nodes, and wherein the linked nodes are structured such that when one of the nodes is designated as a point of view, representations of the nodes can be displayed as a sea of node representations (Fig. 4, Fig. 5, 51, Figs. 6a/6b, 62, 610, and col. 4, lines 1-11 where database records are retrieved and displayed in hierarchical tree structure, Figs. 7, 8 and col. 6, lines 18-24, where a new set of nodes is displayed for the selected node) said method including the steps of:

storing, in a context node, a meaningful context common to a set of the nodes, wherein the context node is linked to each of the nodes in the set (Fig. 4, Symptoms, Tests, Fig. 8, 81-83); and

sharing a single link identification among the nodes in said set, thereby associating the nodes that are identified by said single link identification (Fig. 5, col. 5, lines 26-29, Figs. 6a/b, 63, 69).

As to claim 61, Roberge teaches the method of claim 60, also including the step of modulating a connection strength of the links that are identified by said single link identification, thereby sensitizing or desensitizing said links to further operations (Figs. 4, 6, col. 5, line 42 to col. 6, line 6, node identifier is used to add/delete link).

Claim 66 recites similar limitations as discussed in claim 41 above and is therefore

rejected along the same rationale. Furthermore, Roberge disclose hierarchical file directory

structures that display the names of the files in a selected directory along with the path to file

selection (col. 2, lines 29-33).

Claims 49-57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Cox et al. (U.S.

5.751.931, hereinafter "Cox").

As to claim 49, Cox teaches a method for interactively exploring, accessing, and

visualizing information in a highly connected network of nodes (abstract, where information is

displayed as nodes and arcs connecting nodes and allowing users to interactively manipulate the

clipping surface as well as the three dimensional display characteristics of the nodes and links),

said method including the steps of:

determining a set of linked nodes, each of the nodes including at least one link to another

one of the nodes, wherein the set of linked nodes is structured such that representations of the

nodes can be displayed as a sea of node representations (Figs. 10A/B/C, 21, col. 8, lines 18-31,

); and

designating one of the nodes as a point of view, linking a number of the nodes directly to

the point of view, and calculating individual link distances from each of at least some of the

nodes to the point of view, thereby determining a hierarchical network of the nodes which is

amenable to visualization (col. 5, lines 15-17, col. 9, lines 23-32, weighted link distance, col. 12,

lines 52-59, col. 14, lines 53-59).

As to claim 50, Cox teaches the method of claim 49, wherein there are cyclic loops in

linkages between at least some of the nodes directly and the point of view (Figs. 8, 21).

As to claim 51, Cox teaches the method of claim 49, also including the step of:

adding or deleting at least one link of at least one of the nodes, thereby changing the

hierarchical network (col. 14, lines 53-59).

As to claim 52, Cox teaches the method of claim 49, also including the step of:

displaying representations of the nodes as a sea of node representations, viewed

from said point of view (Fig. 8, col. 12, lines 53-55).

As to claim 53, Cox teaches the method of claim 49, wherein the hierarchical network of

the nodes determines a connection strength of each of a set of linkages between at least some of

the nodes, and a magnitude of each of at least some of the nodes, and wherein position and size

of each of the nodes in said visualization is determined in accordance with each said connection

strength and magnitude (col. 1, lines 44-51, col. 2, lines 47-52, encode some data attribute

related to the link represented by that arc, or the data attribute of the node, col. 8, lines 57-65,

where color and size of the node encodes the attributes of the data).

As to claim 54, Cox teaches the method of claim 49, wherein said sea of node

representations includes virtual reality renderings (col. 11, lines 49-53, where interactive controls

that allow the user to modify).

As to claim 55, Cox teaches the method of claim 49, wherein each of the nodes has a

node type, each of said link distances is determined by a function of the number of links between

a pair of the nodes and the node type of each node of said pair, and the hierarchical network has

a hierarchical tree structure (col. 5, lines 15-17, col. 10, lines 35-44, col. 11, lines 22-26).

As to claim 56, Cox teaches the method of claim 49, also including the step of:

implementing a user interface which displays representations of at least some of the

nodes, wherein the user interface allows emulation of application programs by linking

appropriate ones of the nodes (Figs. 8-12, col. 4, lines 5-8).

As to claim 57, Cox teaches the method of claim 49, also including the step of:

implementing a user interface which displays representations of at least some of the nodes,

wherein the user interface implements a simple command and query syntax which is amenable to

a voice interface (Figs. 8-12, col. 4, lines 5-8, col. 8, lines 38-39, display command, col. 14,lines

53-59).

Claims 58-59 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Bowers et al. (U.S. 5,546,529, hereinafter "Bowers").

As to claim 58, Bowers teaches a method, including the steps of:

structuring computer-readable data as a set of linked nodes, wherein each of the nodes includes at least one link to another one of the nodes (Figs. 2a/2b. 5, col. 4, lines 4-9, where hierarchically related information is often represented as a tree and the node refers to a point on the tree structure), each of the nodes has a name associated therewith (Fig. 5, 501-503), and the set of linked nodes is structured such that when one of the nodes is designated as a point of view, representations of the nodes can be displayed as a sea of node representations, viewed from said point of view (Fig. 6, 605, 607, col. 1, lines 41-45, col. 8, lines 14-37, select a desired node and the tree view is rotated to bring the node into the center of the center panel); and

maintaining information specific to each of the nodes (col. 7, lines 9-10), including by maintaining the name of each of the nodes such that each said name is searchable and retrievable (Fig. 6, 601-604, 609, col. 7, lines 11-17, col. 8, lines 38-42).

As to claim 59, Bowers teaches the method of claim 58, wherein the information specific to each of the nodes, includes a magnitude and connection strength of a link between said each of the nodes and at least one other one of the nodes (Fig. 8, col. 7, lines 23-27, col. 8, line 64 to col. 9, line 10).

Claim 62 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Simonetti (U.S. 5,295,261).

As to claim 62, Simonetti teaches a method of establishing a set of linked nodes from data organized in rows and columns with column headings (Figs. 2-6. col. 8, lines 13-26), wherein each of the nodes includes at least one link to another one of the nodes (Fig. 2C, abstract, where data is stored in a topological map which may be viewed as a tree structure), and the set of linked nodes is structured such that when one of the nodes is designated as a point of view, representations of the nodes can be displayed as a sea of node representations, viewed from said point of view (Figs. 3A/B/C), said method including the steps of:

representing each of the column headings by an abstract node (Fig. 2C, col. 8, lines 15-20);

representing each cell of the data by a data node (Fig. 2C, 54, lines 19-20);

establishing links between each said abstract node and each said data node that corresponds to a cell in a column whose column heading is represented by said abstract node (Fig. 2C, col. 8, lines 13-26); and

establishing links between each said data node that corresponds to a cell in one of the rows (Fig. 2C, col. 8, lines 33-35).

Claims 63-65 and 76-78 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Inoue et al. (U.S. 6,336,123, hereinafter "Inoue").

As to claim 63, Inoue teaches a method of establishing a set of linked nodes from files linked by HTML references, wherein each of the nodes includes at least one link to another one of the nodes (abstract, col. 1, lines 26-34), and the set of linked nodes is structured such that

when one of the nodes is designated as a point of view, representations of the nodes can be

displayed as a sea of node representations (Figs. 22, 24, col. 14, lines 51-53), said method

including the steps of:

establishing data nodes, each of the data nodes representing each of the files (col. 1, line

38, where each node is a HTML page);

establishing links from said data nodes to terms found in the files (Fig. 1, col. 1, lines 63-

67 where terms is anchor text).

As to claim 64, Inoue teaches the method of claim 63, wherein each of the terms is one

of a set of selected the values such as meta-tags or heading values (headline, Fig. 12, col. 5, lines

39-50, col. 13, lines 62-65).

As to claim 65, Inoue teaches the method of claim 63, also including the step of:

establishing links to abstract nodes representing suffixes of the files (Fig. 19, col. 16, line 63 to

col. 17, line 7).

As to claim 76, Inoue teaches a method of displaying node representations indicative of a

network of linked nodes, wherein each of the nodes includes data and at least one link to another

one of the nodes (Figs. 7, 8, abstract, col. 1, lines 26-34), and the set of linked nodes is structured

such that when one of the nodes is designated as a point of view, representations of the nodes can

be displayed as a sea of node representations (Figs. 22, 24, col. 14, lines 51-53), said method

including the steps of:

designating one of the nodes as the point of view (Figs. 13, 15, col. 14, lines 51-53,

where a child node is selected); and

displaying said representations of the nodes as said sea of node representations, viewed

from said point of view (Fig. 22, col. 18, lines 18-41, where linked node is displayed), with

visual emphasis assigned to each of the node representations dependent on parameters of each of

the nodes, said parameters including connection strength of a link between said each of the nodes

and at least one other one of the nodes (Figs. 13, 15, col. 13, lines 34-61, where function buttons

show the linking relationship).

As to claim 77, Inoue teaches the method of claim 76, wherein said parameters also

include polarization of the link between said each of the nodes and at least one other one of the

nodes (Fig. 10, col. 12, lines 59-64, where directional arrow show linking relationship).

As to claim 78, Inoue teaches the method of claim 76, wherein said parameters also

include the minimum number of links between said each of the nodes and at least one other one

of the nodes (col. 14, lines 4-35).

Related Prior Arts

The following list of prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent

to applicant's disclosure.

- Buckwold; Jonathan Y., US 5247666 A, "Data management method for

  representing hierarchical functional dependencies".

- Chakrabarti; Soumen et al., US 6356899 B1, "Method for interactively creating an information database including preferred information elements, such as preferred-authority, world wide web pages".

- Fawcett; Philip E. et al., US 5802526 A, "tem and method for graphically displaying and navigating through an interactive voice response menu".

- Forman; Ernest H., US 4613946 A, "Method and apparatus for generating hierarchical displays".

- Inoue; Kazunori et al., US6014678 A, "Apparatus for preparing a hyper-text document of pieces of information having reference relationships with each other".

- Perrone; Jeffrey, US 6157705 A, "Voice control of a server".

- Robertson; George G., US 5786820 A, "Method and apparatus for increasing the displayed detail of a tree structure".

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shew-Fen Lin whose telephone number is 571-272-2672. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM - 5:00PM.
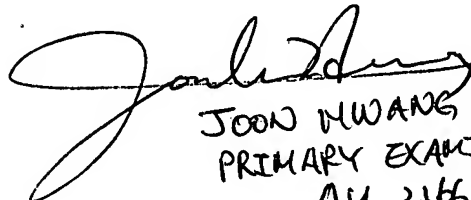
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on 571-272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Shew-Fen Lin
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 2166

September 1, 2007

JOON HWANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER
AU 2166